

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 STATE 077726

43

ORIGIN COA-02

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 SAB-01 SCS-03 L-03 EB-11 SCA-01

H-03 INR-10 DLOS-06 PRS-01 CG-00 DOTE-00 SSO-00

INRE-00 USIE-00 DRC-01 /059 R

DRAFTED BY S/FW-COA:SBLOW:SL

APPROVED BY S/FW-COA:SBLOW

ARA/PAN-MR. HOWARD

----- 094268

O 171529Z APR 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PANAMA IMMEDIATE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 077726

EO 11652 NA

TAGS EFIS PN

SUBJECT: REPORTED SEIZURE OF US TUNA FISHING VESSEL

1. US INDUSTRY SOURCES REPORT US TUNA VESSEL RAFFAELLO SEIZED BY TWO PANAMANIAN PATROL VESSELS ABOUT 0015 APRIL 17 WHILE EN ROUTE PANAMA CITY TO DEBARK CREWMAN IN URGENT NEED MEDICAL ASSISTANCE FOR INTERNAL BLEEDING. SEIZURE APPARENTLY TOOK PLACE NEAR PUNTA MALA. PANAMANIAN BOARDING OFFICIALS EXAMINED RAFFAELLO'S LOG BOOK AND FOUND THAT ON APRIL 16 VESSEL WAS FISHING 80-90 MILES OFF COAST. VESSEL NOW BEING TAKEN IN CUSTODY TO PANAMA CITY AND EXPECTED ARRIVE ABOUT 1630 PANAMA TIME APRIL 17.

2. SEIZURE BY PANAMA OF US TUNA VESSEL IS VERY UNUSUAL AND IN FACT SOURCES STATE THAT IN PAST SOME TUNA BOATS HAVE BEEN PICKED UP BY PANAMANIAN'S BUT RELEASED PRIOR TO ARRIVAL AT PORT. FOR PRESENT, THEREFORE, IT APPEARS DESIRABLE SIMPLY TO ASCERTAIN FACTS AND TO HANDLE MATTER IN LOW KEY PENDING FURTHER INFORMATION. VESSEL OWNER IS OF COURSE CONCERNED ABOUT PROVISION OF PROPER MEDICAL CARE FOR ILL CREWMAN.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 STATE 077726

3. REQUEST EMBASSY SEEK INFORMATION AND REPORT ASAP.  
PROVIDE FOR WELFARE VESSEL AND CREW UPON ARRIVAL. KISSINGER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** SHIP DETENTION, TUNA, MEDICAL CARE, CREW LIST, FISHING BOATS, RAFFAELLO  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 17 APR 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** MorefiRH  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974STATE077726  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** COA:SBLOW:SL  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740088-1105  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19740436/aaaabfxd.tel  
**Line Count:** 63  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ORIGIN COA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** MorefiRH  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 18 SEP 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <18 SEP 2002 by martinml>; APPROVED <18-Sep-2002 by MorefiRH>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** REPORTED SEIZURE OF US TUNA FISHING VESSEL  
**TAGS:** EFIS, PN, US  
**To:** PANAMA  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005